

The Sun.

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In Justice to Mr. Parker.

Possibly Mr. PARKER himself is not wholly responsible for the state of mind which regards with complacency the theory that his mere name on the ticket is all-sufficient in the present campaign. It may be nothing more than the natural persistence of the idea which Mr. HILL found so convenient in the preliminary canvass for the nomination.

The School Enrollment Rules.

In considering the propriety of the rules governing the enrollment of children as pupils in the public schools, to which many of THE SUN's correspondents object, it must be borne in mind that the educational authorities have a difficult, well-nigh insoluble, problem to handle. The school capacity of the city is inadequate to the legitimate demands made upon it by the population. If ineligible candidates for enrollment are accepted the existing congestion in the class rooms will be increased and injustice done to the children who are really of school age.

Nor should it be forgotten that many parents seek to place in school children who have not reached the legal age, not for the purpose of educating them, but solely to be relieved of their care for a part of each school day. These parents attempt to turn the schools into nurseries; and this it is the duty of the authorities to prevent by the enforcement of suitable regulations and rules.

But do even these facts justify the enrolling clerks in insisting upon the production of one of three documents as a condition of enrollment? In this country the communities in which vital statistics are kept are comparatively few, and the natives of many States would find it impossible to obtain them. The demand for baptism certificates is one that can be met by only a small part of the population. To ask a native American for a passport is about as sensible as to ask an Asiatic Turk for a California redwood tree. To exclude a child apparently of school age from the class room because of the inability of its parents to produce any one of these documents would be distinctly unjust and improper.

It has not escaped attention that the rigid enforcement of these rules this year may decrease the number of pupils enrolled as eligible for instruction in the public schools. The reduction of the number of students in part time classes is greatly desired by the public. If the enrollment is reduced, no matter by what means, the number of pupils in such classes will be lessened, to the credit of the Department of Education and the gratification of the public. Some of our correspondents believe that the desire to accomplish this is responsible for the rigid rules and their uncompromising enforcement. We hesitate to believe this to be the case.

There must be some officer of the department capable of giving a full and satisfactory explanation of the rules and their application.

Has Russia's Baltic Fleet Really Started for the Far East?

The Baltic fleet has at last left Cronstadt, and if we are to believe certain reports from St. Petersburg, it is really bound for the Orient. It is to touch at Libau, where it will be joined by transports, coalers and supply ships, already collected there. It is uncertain whether the fleet will await in that port the arrival of the battleship Orel, another attempt to cripple which has been made; the reports differ on this point. From Libau the fleet will traverse the Baltic, and entering the North Sea, not by the Kiel Canal, but by the Kattegat, will coal, we are told, at Brest, and thereafter will be supplied by Hamburg-American colliers placed at intervals along the route. What that route may be is as yet unknown, as is also the port of destination, which cannot, however, be Vladivostok, as this harbor will be looked long before the fleet could reach it.

If all the vessels that have sailed from Cronstadt should reach the scene of naval operations in good condition, they would undoubtedly constitute a formidable armament, decidedly superior on paper to the force at Admiral Togo's disposal. The fleet, which is under the command of Vice Admiral ROBERTOVSKY, includes three sister battleships of 13,516 tons each, namely, the Kniaz Suvarov (flagship), the Imperator Alexander III, and the Borodino. With these will go three other battleships, the Oslabya, the Sissoi Veliky, to which will be added the Orel, if it can be quickly repaired. Comprised also in the fleet are the cruisers Oleg, Admiral Nakhimov, Dmitri Donskoi, Aurora and Svetlana, together with the relatively small cruiser the Almaz, which will fly the pennant of Rear Admiral ENKVIST. There are also several torpedo boats and ten torpedo boat destroyers.

Such is the fleet. In order to calculate the time of its possible arrival in Far Eastern waters it would be necessary to know the port of destination, the route to be followed and also the speed of the slowest war vessel, to which the movement of the whole force must be adjusted. There was at one time a rumor that the fleet would proceed by way of

Cape Horn, but this may be dismissed as incredible, owing to the almost insuperable difficulty of coaling on the long and circuitous course. The Cape of Good Hope route, though shorter, would be practicable only if the warships could receive periodical supplies of fuel from colliers. They will not be permitted to coal at any of the English stations with which both the west and the east coasts of Africa are girdled. An authoritative announcement to that effect has just been made by a British official. There remains the shortest route, that by the Suez Canal; but here also the Russian war vessels will labor under grave disabilities, owing to the position taken by the British Government with regard to the coaling of belligerents. It should be borne in mind that along the Suez route to the Orient the French have very few coaling stations, while, until Kiau Chau is reached, the Germans have none.

Let us assume, however, that some ninety days hence the Baltic fleet will arrive in Chinese waters. What will be the base of its operations? Not Vladivostok, for, as we have said, that harbor will be ice-locked. Assuredly not Port Arthur, for nobody believes that this fortress can hold out three months longer. The nearest French naval station is in Indo-China, and is therefore out of the question, even if France could, without a breach of neutrality, permit a belligerent to use one of its harbors as a base. By a process of elimination we might reach the conclusion that Kiau Chau was to be used as a base of hostile operations by the Baltic fleet. It is obvious, however, that if this harbor were employed for any other purpose by a belligerent than for quick coaling and very brief sojourn the German Emperor would cease to be a neutral and would stand forth undisguisedly as the czar's ally. In that event the treaty of alliance between Great Britain and Japan would immediately become operative. The entrance of Great Britain into the contest would almost certainly be followed by the appearance of France on Russia's side, for no French Ministry would be likely to resist the pressure of public sentiment in favor of such a move. What we might witness then would be a conflict between Great Britain and Japan upon the one side and Russia, Germany and France upon the other.

The departure of Russia's Baltic fleet for the Far East, with Kiau Chau in view as its base of operations, would be a very serious event, pregnant with ominous possibilities.

Maine and New York.

No lesson whatsoever that is drawn from the result in Maine yesterday can be applied to the situation in New York in advance of to-morrow's Republican State convention.

It will be high time to cipher on Mr. ROOSEVELT's prospects in the Empire State when the extent of the blighting effect of Odellism on the State ticket directly, and indirectly upon the national ticket, can be estimated more accurately in the light of Saratoga.

Wait for the grocery wagon, and see how it is loaded.

The Copiah Rough Riders and the Story of "Beat Three."

The Providence Journal produces from Limbo a very interesting if somewhat dated biography of JOSEPH WARDEN BAILY of Texas in his more youthful days, and presents the same in an effective way as a companion piece to the highly colored picture of Col. ROOSEVELT which Senator BAILY is now exhibiting to the voters.

Senator BAILY was born in Copiah county, Miss., and that was the scene of his political activity before he removed to Texas in 1885. In the election of November, 1883, the supervision of the balloting in Copiah county was assumed by a volunteer organization of about one hundred and fifty Democrats, organized as a military company with young JOSEPH W. BAILY as its captain, and one ERNEST WHEELER as major. The methods adopted by these strenuous sons of Copiah, under the leadership of the future Defender of the Constitution, to preserve the integrity of the ballot were afterward described in the report of a Senate investigating committee of which Mr. FAYE and Mr. HOAR were members. JOHN SHERMAN also signed the report, which says:

"About two weeks before the election the armed company above named began riding around the country, taking with them a cannon. They began operations at the lower end of 'Beat 3,' but for twelve days ranged over the county. Their operations were largely confined to the night. They kept up a constant firing with their guns and cannons. The cannon was burst, but was replaced by another. These disturbances, which were compared by several witnesses to what had been soldiers in the dead of night in the localities where colored people dwelt in large numbers."

The Senate report goes on to charge that Captain BAILY's Rough Riders "killed, wounded, whipped and otherwise outraged a large number of persons." The report goes even so far as to style Captain BAILY's command of cavalry and artillery a "mob." It says:

"The reign of terror instituted by the mob in command of WHEELER and BAILY culminated on election day, when WHEELER shot PAINT MARY TERRY in cold blood because the latter persisted in casting his ballot after being forbidden to do so by WHEELER."

We pass over the Senate report's narrative of the shooting of PAINT MARY TERRY to quote in full its account of a subsequent event in which Captain BAILY was the central figure:

"On the next day a large and enthusiastic meeting was held in the court house at Herculane. At this meeting BAILY, the lawyer and captain of the company of which WHEELER was major, made a speech. He was received with tumultuous applause and said:

"My friends, you have won a great victory. Democrats were weak and Democrats are weak. We have got a Democratic stock of officers. By the next election we hope to have a Democratic Congress."

"Some one called out: 'Tell us about Beat 3.' He went on:

"Now I will tell you something about Beat 3. I went down to Beat 3, and my friend WHEELER. I had thought to stamp the Beat, but I got down there in a portion of that country we came to the conclusion that I could do more in the saddle than on the stump. Therefore we went armed

to electioneer; and, I tell you, when we started out we took along with us something like this (pulling out a pistol). I tell you, my friends, it is the best method of electioneering I have ever seen. My friend WHEELER is a noble hand to electioneer. We would come to a house and my friend WHEELER would get right down and go right in and take a seat right by the fire with those persons. He would electioneer a few minutes and they would almost invariably agree to vote the ticket before we left. Oh, we didn't hurt anybody!"

He continued: "It would be well for some persons to go around and see those people who affiliate with the opposite party and are voting different to us and encourage them to come together and vote with us. If they agree to come back and vote with us, grant them all courtesy and be peaceable with them; but in the event that they should fall, then what shall we do? (Loud cries: 'Kill them out! Kill them out!') cheering and after the cheering a loud voice, 'Kill them out!' 'No, I would not advise you to kill them out; but I believe you will do it without advice.'"

Ex-Captain BAILY of the Copiah Rough Riders is no longer in the saddle. He has sensibly determined to confine his political activity to the stump. He does not now regard the pistol as the best election argument available in a campaign. He is not concerning himself nowadays with the vote in Beat 3, or bursting cannon at midnight. He is travelling about the country in a legitimate way advising people to vote for BAILY and the Constitution as against ROOSEVELT and the Sword, and describing in eloquent language those congenial characteristics of temperament and those defective perceptions of fundamental principles of law which, in his opinion, render THOMAS ROOSEVELT a dangerous person in a post of high responsibility.

The Latest Problem in the Transvaal.

After a prolonged and vigorous contest, in which England became only less actively concerned than her colony, it was decided to admit Chinese labor into the Transvaal for employment in the gold mines of that country. About 7,000 Chinese have already arrived, and sailing lists indicate that by Nov. 1 the number will have increased to 20,000 or more.

A new question has now arisen. A very strong fight was necessary before the Chinese, political as well as racial aliens, were allowed to enter. The new issue involves the exclusion of East Indian natives who, although racially alien, are politically British subjects. Having opened the door to alien Chinese, England is now confronted with the problem of finding the best means of closing the door in the face of some of her own subjects who desire to go there to trade. Discussing the matter in Parliament on July 21 Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN presented the case in this fashion:

"Nothing would be easier, nothing would be less surprising, if there was absolutely open intercourse between India and South Africa, than that South Africa should be overwhelmed by the introduction of Indian immigrants, against whom I say nothing in themselves, but who would simply swamp out the political existence of the whole of the white inhabitants. A few years might very well see such an immigration of the underbred, overnumerous population of India as would altogether alter the character of South Africa, and once and for ever would preclude any idea of its being a white man's country."

In its issue of Aug. 20 South Africa presents the ground of apprehension as follows:

"Although theoretically a British subject should be allowed to trade where and how he pleases, so long as he complies with the strict letter of the law, in Mr. Chamberlain's dominions, in practice this would mean the ruin of thousands of the most deserving of the white population of the Transvaal, who have acted as pioneers of commerce in the Colony only to find themselves in a moment of time ousted from the fruits of their labor as the unfortunate sparrow whose comfortable nest attracts the attention of the piratical cuckoo."

The point involves not only the large number who would go if they could; it concerns a very considerable number who are already there and who have been there, in many cases, for several years. These are generally regarded as detrimental to local trade interests, but the Home Government is opposed to their expulsion, and has even expressed disapproval of a too stringent regulation of their commercial privileges.

Unless some restraint is imposed there is every probability of a large influx of East Indian traders, with whose methods the white merchant is unable to compete successfully. They are hawkers, peddlers, and small shopkeepers, and by the exercise of a parsimonious inequality quite impossible to the Occidental, they become proprietors of often quite extensive bazaars. A land overrun with peddlers and small storekeepers of that kind offers little opportunity for the white merchant.

With reference to Chinese labor, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN laid down the general proposition that the Transvaal should be regarded as a self-governing colony. The probability is that the present question will be placed on a similar basis, although local action will be, as in the other case, subject to the approval of the Home Government. As the Indian Government is not likely to accept without protest either an exclusion act or a stringent regulation act, the matter promises to become important in English and South African affairs.

Hard Words for a Soft Heart.

Cold baked beans can't be expected to appreciate a hot bird. No wonder the Boston Advertiser croaks at Geniality Tom: "No figure in the Democratic campaign has gone up with such a skyrocket flourish and descended in such darkness as THOMAS TAGGART, chairman of the Democratic national committee. He is now bottled up as ADOLPH BELMONT's office boy."

Abusive and untrue. No just mind can associate Mr. TAGGART with darkness. He is a man of lightness. He is not a skyrocket or a sick. He is a perpetual courtesan pinwheel. He revolves rapidly on his own smile as an axle. He is not bottled up, shut up, or encased in any other envelope than his own genius. He is not an office boy. He is a manager, one of many managers. In a multitude of counsellors is wisdom; and he has plenty of wisdom of his own. He is "carrying" Indiana by long-distance telephony and telephone. His admirers look to him to repeat his shining success of 1904, when he was chairman of the Indiana State Democratic committee, and "kept" the Republican plurality "down to" 44,000.

A man in Mr. TAGGART's post is sure to

be misunderstood and depreciated. But even Envy cannot deny to him the highest merit as a leader and a strategist. New York commands Indiana. The warrior must have his hand on the sinews of war. Where the dough is, there the baker must be. Mr. TAGGART will yet teach the Eastern snobs what a Hoosier politician can do. Some of the editors at the Jeffersonian simplicity banquet were sure that the Democrats have "a fighting chance" in Indiana. Where would that chance be without TAGGART to nurse it?

How splendidly the Hon. EDWARD M. SHEPARD would run in Brooklyn, under the fostering care and affectionate management of Mr. McCLELLAN!

We are receiving daily from Mr. FRANKLIN W. WHITEHEAD or some of his friends additional and superfluous copies of the pamphlet in which he proclaims his authorship of the previous pamphlet entitled "Mr. ROOSEVELT and the Presidency, by a S—r."

Thanks, but two specimens were sufficient for THE SUN's office needs; one to file in the pigeon hole labelled Vanity, and a single duplicate for the crowded shelves of Dulness.

A Word in Behalf of Lincolnville.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Your article in to-day's issue of THE SUN headed "In Darkest Richmond" needs correction. In the first place, this village has over 2,700 inhabitants. The Board of Education has just closed a school year with an enrollment of 600 pupils. The present attendance is over 400. The American Lincolnville School employs about 500 men. We have twelve teachers and about twelve too many.

That we are not the fault of all the inhabitants, but the fault of the politicians and trolley companies, is a fact which we do not intend to dispute. Before every election the shouters and the trolley companies come to the door and promise that if we only vote their respective tickets we are sure to get the trolley cars to this place any day.

After the election they do not keep their word. They take us to the street of the borough, but we get nothing for it, except electric lights, which half the time give no light at all. As for the trolley cars, they are a while we see a mounted policeman galloping down the turnpike. The nearest police station is in the next town.

You mention "Travellers" in the article, and would inform you that "Longneck" or "Traveller" is the original name of this village, but a trickster some years ago, when he was a member of the village board, named it "Lincolnville," but this latter name is repudiated by a great many, especially the farmers, and they firmly refuse to recognize it.

For the last fifteen years I am a constant reader of your paper, and I am very interested in what you write about this village and its people. I wish you would take a little more interest in the village and its people, and print more articles about it. Your article of the 21st inst. was very interesting to all. Your article of the 21st inst. was very interesting to all. Your article of the 21st inst. was very interesting to all.

Yours truly, BENJ. P. BENTLEY.

Lincolnville, N. Y., Sept. 11.

Shepherd and Sheep Herder.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: "Fuzzled" is quite right about the word "sheep." The writer was born in New York, spent three years in the Middle West, a year or so in Denver, six months or so in the mountains of Colorado, and has since been in the city of New York. He never heard the word "sheep" used in the sense of "shepherd" until he got west of a line drawn through the Rocky Mountains, North Platte, Neb., and Rosebud, Mont. It is essentially a Western word, and is used by the cowboys and the sheep herders. I have heard a cowboy say "pack a watch," meaning simply "pack a watch."

By the way, have you observed what a delicate sense for the fitness of things the people of the Far West exhibit in their use of the word "shepherd" and "sheep herder"? "Shepherd" is essentially a poetic word. When sheep raising became one of the notable industries of these States, and a person was required to tend the flocks, the Westerners would not admit that he was a "sheep herder," but a "shepherd." Therefore the man who tends the flocks of Montana, Idaho, California and other States is called a "shepherd."

NEW YORK, Sept. 11. HENRY ANDERSON LAFLEUR.

A Blast for Jersey City.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: "New Jersey," writing in yesterday's SUN, ticks "Union"; I will tick New Jersey because it has no more there; but I have no use for Jersey City as a city. It is a little warm town, lacking in cleanliness and civic pride, run by a "ring," having as residents only those who are not satisfied with the conditions of the State, and the balance of the population are unmentioned.

Jersey City could have been a fine city, had it the proper authorities, good electors, and a good self-pride. It has none of these, and is unlikely ever to have them. The time for that has long since passed.

Here in New York when we have a "blast" at the city that gives good effect (even if they pay dearly for it) in Jersey City there is plenty of "blast," but no result. The city is a "blast" of "blast," and is a "blast" of "blast." The city is a "blast" of "blast," and is a "blast" of "blast."

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ALWAYS FOR ODELL.

SARATOGA, Sept. 12.—The Governor-Chairman of the banks of the Hudson, in the opinion of those who have followed the course since the Governor-Chairman became its chief patron, is about as stable mentally as the Governor-Chairman himself. His policy has been remarkable from time to time and was the object of comment here to-day. First the Governor-Chairman's organ demanded that he should be the candidate for Governor this fall. The Governor-Chairman's organ, ceased its cries for a third nomination for its chief patron after the Governor-Chairman became convinced that if he ran again he would be buried under a plurality of 800,000; or, as one of his own satellites put it here to-day, "there wouldn't be even a bubble to mark the spot where he disappeared."

The Governor-Chairman's organ then demanded that the American people should be asked to elect the Governor-Chairman as "Senator emeritus," whatever that may mean. The organ declared that Senator Platt had become "State leader emeritus," whatever that may mean. Next, the Governor-Chairman's organ declared that in any event its chief patron's leadership was assured. When the organ's attention was called to the fearful vote of the forty-three Republican counties against the Governor-Chairman's \$101,000,000 canal scheme, the Governor-Chairman's organ on the banks of the Hudson suddenly stopped all further reference to his leadership.

The Governor-Chairman's organ has several characteristics as to its chief patron's leadership. It is a Republican leader of the State. On July 27 the Governor-Chairman's organ contained an advertisement to all Republican leaders in the State, and especially to those below the Bronx line. The Governor-Chairman's organ of that date goes on to tell how the Governor-Chairman's organ in the district leaders of Manhattan and The Bronx.

"I don't want you to hang around headquarters. Stay in your districts and get to work."

Then the Governor-Chairman's organ went on as follows: "The days of the 'easy boss' have indeed passed. The Governor-Chairman, who is the chief patron of the Republican State committee, is spending all of his time in this (New York) city and is devoting practically all of his attention to the situation in New York. Thus he knows exactly what each leader is doing."

On the same date the Governor-Chairman's organ printed another attack on Elihu Root as a prospective candidate for Governor. It was about that time that Governor-Chairman Odell told Elihu Root that he was a candidate for Governor in order to carry the State. At the time Odell made that speech to Root the clamor for Root's nomination by the Republican voters of the State was well-nigh stupendous and unanimous. Mr. Root, however, never had a thought of becoming the candidate for Governor, and he promptly took the situation out of the Governor-Chairman's hands. But the fact that the Governor-Chairman, as Republican leader of the State, talked in that fashion to Mr. Root is evidence, it was asserted here to-day, that Odell gives no more heed to the wishes of the Republican party of the State than if it did not exist, and that only men and measures are of value to himself and his plans are to be carried out.

The Governor-Chairman's organ for nearly a year has persisted in its attacks on Mr. Root, and recently that high minded statesman, Senator Edgar T. Brackett of Saratoga Springs, joined the Governor-Chairman in those attacks and in public station of Odell as a candidate for a third term.

After announcing that the Governor-Chairman was no "easy boss," the Governor-Chairman's organ waited for several days and then solemnly announced that he was no Richard Croker and that he did not lead the Republican party of the State as Richard Croker had led Tammany Hall. And on Aug. 16 the Governor-Chairman's organ declared that he was no "easy boss," and that he was no Richard Croker and that he did not lead the Republican party of the State as Richard Croker had led Tammany Hall.

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CONDITIONS AT PANAMA.